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Creole. We have in these novels, not alone detailed observations of actual conditions, but the inspired teaching of a religious prophet, who laments the evils of the times, and denounces the laxity of moral and social standards that follows race mixture.

Charles Egbert Craddock (Mary N. Murfree) is the novelist of the mountain regions of Tennessee. She depicts minutely and imaginatively the primitive, emotional life of that strange division of our native stock, arrested in development by its narrow backwoods environment. The elemental motives and peculiar speech and customs of these, our able but neglected brothers, are delineated in a realistic way. The essayist feels that we have in these books a "contribution to the science of social organization as well as to the creation of an artistic and literary success."

James Lane Allen is described as the "painter of the Old and New" in Kentucky life. His books deal with "the sturdy early pioneers," the quaint and peaceful anti-bellum life, and the disastrous "results of civil disunion;" but they also reveal deep insight into the life of the new regime. Mr. Toulmin declares that Allen has broken entirely away from "sectional narrowness." As an evolutionist, with full tolerance toward men, he pictures the conflicts and failures of humanity about him, and shows forcefully "the contest of circumstances and environment versus nature."

Joel Chandler Harris possesses the rare gifts of deep human understanding and a wholesome attitude toward life. Through his simple-hearted negro interpreters, the animal and vegetable realms become the dominions of man, and the charming stories furnish a medium for the expression of homely humor, and for genial criticism of the life and foibles of men. Harris has done much to explain to the world the inner negro consciousness, and to popularize the strange folk lore and beautiful melodies of that deeply emotional race. "Uncle Remus" has personified for us the better side of race relations in the old regime. The tales savor of the soil and are filled with the lure of the land of our youth. A source of perennial delight to the children, their broad sympathy has extended the author's keen interest in life, and carried happiness to many older folk. Harris has had a true mission, like the novelists of the South, in giving a comprehensive picture of the vista of life that has been opened to him.

We might admit with the author of these essays that historians and philosophers come and go, but there is "no more intrinsically worthy contribution to the annals of the nation than the perpetual embodiment of a little known section of the life of the people." Of these new makers of literature, who seek to express her social life, the South may feel justly proud.

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Uyehara, G. E. *The Political Development of Japan, 1867-1909.* Pp. xxiv, 296.

Price \$3.00. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co.

Students of political institutions will consider it a rare good fortune that one so thoroughly conversant with political science and the workings of government in the different countries of the world should give us this treatise on The Political

Development of Japan. After the brief introduction discussing the political mind of the nation, or its race psychology, the author takes up a short historical account of the institutional history of Japan through the days of feudalism and the Shugunate to the arrival of the American fleet under Commodore Perry and the final restoration of the Mikado's government in place of the Shugun. He describes how this brought about the substitution of a bureaucracy for feudalism and the proclamation of the "Charter Oath." He then outlines the various movements towards the establishment of constitutional government until the adoption of the present constitution in 1889. The second part of the book entitled "Some Theoretical Aspects of the Constitution," Dr. Uyehara devotes to the various parts of the constitutional machinery leaving to the third and last division an account of "The Working of the Constitution," as instanced by its political and historical development. The book has all the facilities for ready consultation, such as a carefully prepared table of contents in the beginning with a chronology of recent important events. The extremely complete and well-prepared index is preceded by an appendix containing the official translation of the constitution, a list of the ministerial changes since 1885, and a list of the members of the privy council with the date of appointment in each case. Throughout the volume interesting and carefully selected notes abound. It would be more useful to the European reader were it possible to ascertain in every case whether the reference is to a work in a European language or to one made available by translation. The reviewer found something of value in each page.

In substance, Dr. Uyehara's book vividly portrays to us the real heart of Japan's political conditions, that is, the absolute power of the Emperor.

In the Japanese mind the very conception of the state centers in the personality of the Mikado. On account of this worship of his person, and because of tradition, his power is exercised by a group of advisors forming his privy council. Within this privy council is a group of especially powerful statesmen known as "elder statesmen." (Dr. Uyehara barely alludes to this group of elder statesmen.) The bureaucracy is carried on by a cabinet of bureau chiefs selected by the Emperor, which of course means by his counsellors. Then we have the Diet composed of two houses.

The rights of the Diet depend upon the constitution granted by imperial rescript and amended in the same fashion. The whole function of the Diet, according to its spirit, is to consent to or concur with the laws which the Emperor is looked upon as making. The administration makes every effort to secure the election of representatives amenable to its will.

The powers which the house possesses are first, the influence over public opinion exercised by its debates with which the government may not interfere. This influence is slight. The second instrument of considerable power is that of interpellation of the ministry. But by far the most important means at the disposal of the Diet is the address to the Emperor.

The great power of the Japanese State is due to the popular belief in the all-pervading wisdom of the Emperor. Those who actually do not believe in the divine right of the Emperor follow the same procedure as if they did so that the whole force of the nation can be and is centralized in an expression of policy

which the ministry speaking through the Mikado utters. Japan of to-day is a political anachronism capable of acting in foreign relations with terrific force because the Emperor can command the support of every subject.

The consideration of the peculiar structure of the Japanese State makes it apparent that this system can only prevail as long as a bureaucratic ministry and the Emperor's privy council are held independent of party organization. It has, therefore, been the fundamental policy of conservative Japanese statesmen to crush out parties and to refuse to recognize them in forming the bureaucratic ministries. To this effect the severest penalties have been imposed upon party organization, but in spite of the government's plans and its bribery and bestowal of places; in spite of the use of appointments in the upper house which it holds at its disposal the tendency to the formation of parties is so strong that almost every election has found a strong opposition to the government in the lower house. And when it was necessary for some important reform to receive the consent of the Diet, such as the imposition of an additional taxation, the government has been forced to accord a certain recognition to party organization.

Dr. Uyehara's book is not intended for popular reading. Only the student of political affairs will understand it but he has done a real service in presenting such an interesting, scientific and searching analysis of a great world power that differs in its ideas of government so greatly from our own.

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Van Hise, Charles R. *Concentration and Control—A Solution of the Trust Problem in the United States.* Pp. xiii, 288. Price \$2.00. New York: Macmillan Company, 1912.

Dr. Van Hise's latest book, "Concentration and Control," is divided into five chapters: One, The General Facts regarding Concentration; two, Some Important Illustrations of Concentration; three, The Laws regarding Cooperation; four, The Situation in Other Countries; five, Remedies. Under each of these chapters come a series of sections which are further subdivided into groups. The arrangement is wholly admirable.

Throughout the entire volume, though especially in the first chapter, the reader is constantly confused by the use of the word "Concentration," a term which Dr. Van Hise has not considered it necessary to define. At one time there is obviously intended the increasingly large scale of production; at another, equally obviously, the author is dealing with the problem of combination. Thus the section headed "Subdivision of Labor" (p. 9) refers certainly to the former, while the saving of the cost of salesmen briefly discussed (p. 14) is clearly not an economy or advantage of large scale production but of combination. This instance is selected as an illustration of a confusion to be found in the volume from cover to cover. Concentration as ordinarily understood refers to increase in size and decrease in the number of plants engaged in the manufacture of an article, a phenomenon which Dr. Van Hise uses twenty pages of tables to exhibit. Parenthetically it may be remarked that these census tables had better found place in an appendix. Their essential facts could have been summarized in a couple of